

**GOVERNMENT**  **SIKKIM** **GAZETTE**

**EXTRAORDINARY**  
**PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY**

**Gangtok**      **Wednesday 09<sup>th</sup> September, 2009**      **No. 344**

Wednesday 09<sup>th</sup> September, 2009

**No. 344**

**GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM  
HOME DEPARTMENT  
GANGTOK**

**No: 97/Home/2009**

Dated: 16/07/2009

## **NOTIFICATION**

Whereas the State Government has deemed it expedient and necessary in the public interest to declare the State Highway from Ravangla to Namchi via Damthang and the approach road to Samdrupjore as an "Eco Highway".

Now therefore, the State Government is hereby pleased to declare the State Highway from Ravangla to Namchi via Damthang and the approach road to Samdrupnagar, as an Eco Highway road and also hereby pleased to constitute a Committee to oversee activities along the Eco Highway, consisting of the following members:-

1.	PCCF-cum-Secretary, Forest Environment & Wild Life Management Department	-	Chairman
2.	PCE-cum-Secretary, Roads & Bridges Department	-	Member
3.	Secretary-in-Charge, Tourism Department	-	Member
4.	District Collector (South)	-	Member
5.	Chief Wildlife Warden, Forest Env. & Wildlife Management Department	-	Member
6.	Local Joint Forest Management Committee (JFMC)	-	Member
7.	Additional Chief Engineer (S/W), Roads & Bridges Department	-	Member Secretary

The terms of reference and guidelines for the Committee shall be as follows:-

1. The Committee will work to enforce norms for making Ravangla-Damthang-Namchi Road, including approach to Samdrupse as an Eco-Highway.

2. The Committee shall create high level awareness about the project by engaging the local community and other stake holders by their participation in the project.
3. The Committee shall create and maintain a high performance team and disseminate information for effective work in order to ensure proper upkeep of the Eco-Highway. Adequate capacity building should be done to make the people aware of the project.
4. The Committee shall work towards legislation to legalize generation of revenue for operation, maintenance and sustenance of the Eco-Highway.
5. The Committee shall work to ensure proper road geometrics and construction of the highway by utilizing eco friendly materials, so that it would not interfere with the natural habitat of local flora and fauna. The Committee shall also relocate flora and fauna, if disturbed, during the process of any constructional activities. Both Forest and Wet land should be conserved as far as possible to ensure ecological balance.
6. The Committee shall make effort to plant fruit bearing trees and seasonal blooming plants and herbs all along the highway for Ardisia species (Damai Gera), Wallichilli densi flora (Phakrey-Ban Supari) etc. and develop eco-gardens, walkway and tourist spots to break the monotony during ones journey along the Highway. Trees should be dressed with perennial and ornamental creepers to provide additional greenery to invite birds and butterflies.
7. The Committee shall see that the electrical poles, telephone poles, including overhead cables of all sorts may be laid underground. Display of any sort of commercial advertisement hoarding should be avoided in the vicinity of the Highway.
8. The Committee shall ensure preservation of old trees and also ban felling of trees for at least upto 500 feet on either sides of the road. To avoid noise pollution, blowing of horns along the stretch should be banned.
9. The Committee shall see that during the course of construction and restoration/maintenance works, use of heavy and noisy equipment like bulldozers etc. is avoided. These be replaced with pneumatic excavators to minimize noise pollution and damage of the road surface. It should also be mandatory to install sprinklers having a minimum capacity of 2000 litres to prevent adverse effects which could arise due to dust pollution along Highway.

**BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVENOR.**

**N. D. CHINGAPA, IAS  
CHIEF SECRETARY  
F. No. 223/GOS/R&B(Gen)08-09**